

THE EDGE INITIATIVE FOR LIBRARIES

Nebraska Library Commission State Aid Funding Request FY 2016 - 2017



Summary

Edge is an assessment tool designed to help libraries determine how best to plan technology projects to target the unique needs of their community. The Edge Initiative was developed with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, led by the Urban Libraries Council, and supported by the International City/County Management Association, among others.

Funding Request

\$110,000 for FY 2016 and **\$117,500** for FY 2017

- Makes the Edge assessment tool available to participating Nebraska public libraries.
- Enables participating Nebraska libraries to implement specific action plans generated from the Edge assessment to meet the distinctive technology needs of their communities.



“The Edge Assessment was really helpful for our library. It gave us a chance to see where we were serving our community well, and where we could improve. The assessment helped inform our strategic planning process and really went hand-in-hand with our analysis of how the library could best serve the community.”

– Jessica Chamberlain, Director of the Norfolk Public Library
and Participant in the Edge Assessment Pilot Project

Goals

All people should have opportunities to enrich and improve their lives through open access to information and technology services. The Edge Initiative will enable local libraries to:

- **Measure** the current technological landscape of the community against Edge benchmarks
- **Improve** the digital literacy of their communities
- **Take Action** on the planning map provided by Edge
- **Build Partnerships** between libraries and local governments
- **Produce** optimal performance and equip libraries with efficient technology resources
- **Fulfill** technology needs of the community
- **Enhance** lifelong learning, the local economy, and workforce development

Where People Connect, Communities Achieve



Nebraska
Library Commission

www.libraryedge.org